

App. No. 10/749866

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 4 and 6 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 6 and the limitations of intervening claim 4. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 5 and 7-9 are pending and should be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 5, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bartley et al. (US 3,722,469). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. However, in an effort to expedite allowance of the application, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 6 and intervening claim 4. Therefore, this rejection is moot. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of this rejection.

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Owen (US 753,730). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter. Therefore, this rejection is moot. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of this rejection.


In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' attorney listed below at (612) 371.5387.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300



Dated: November 9, 2005

By 
Joshua N. Randall
Reg. No. 50,719
JNR:ae